Conclusion.—Mr. C. Ranganatha Rao Sahib's report of the administration of his department is a record of progress in many directions. The graphs furnished by him illustrating the results achieved, in several cases, are interesting. He deserves to be complimented on the manner in which he has organized and directed the activities of all branches of work, and of all concerns and institutions under him, and on the results achieved.

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.

Report on the working of the Civil Veterinary Department.

READ—

Letter No. Per. 45—29-30, dated 28th September 1929, from the Director of Agriculture, submitting with his introductory note, a report on the working of the Civil Veterinary Department for 1928-29.

ORDER NO. D. 7244-300—C. V. 37-29-12, DATED 23RD DECEMBER 1929.

Recorded.

2. *Reorganization.*—The prospects offered to Veterinary Inspectors in the Department by the scheme of reorganization sanctioned in Government Order No. D. 7923-8—C. V. 65-26-5, dated 28th January 1928 not having been found sufficiently attractive to fresh entrants, Government in their Order No. D. 9982-10044—C. V. 59-28-5, dated 30th March 1929 fixed a time scale for Veterinary Inspectors starting from Rs. 60 and rising by annual increments of Rs. 5 to Rs. 150 with an efficiency bar at Rs. 120. The clerical staff both in the Head and the Divisional Offices was also strengthened. Two additional Assistant Superintendents were appointed for investigating cattle diseases in the State.

3. *Seasonal Conditions* were on the whole fair, only a temporary scarcity of water being felt in parts of the Kolar and the Shimoga Districts.

4. *Contagious Diseases.*—During the year there was a marked increase in the outbreak on contagious diseases, especially of Rinderpest the intensity of which is said to have been the severest yet experienced in the State since the Institution of the Civil Veterinary Department. The recorded mortality from this disease alone was 28,041 against 14,891 during the previous year, but, as the Director states, this figure probably represents only about 50 per cent of the total deaths owing to the fact that a large proportion of the Patels do not at present send in regular returns and many of those that are sent in, are imperfect. Government have recently issued strict instructions in the matter and it is hoped that more reliable statistics will be obtained in future.

5. Some indication of the severity of the epidemic of rinderpest is afforded by the fact that the loss to the people of the State from this cause during the year is estimated at 20 lakhs of rupees. Though this is a large figure it may be said that the loss would have been several times greater, but for the strenuous efforts made by the Department to combat the epidemic by an organized campaign of inoculation, which taxed the resources of the Serum Institute and the staff of the Civil Veterinary Department to the utmost. This is apparent from the fact that 2,30,442 inoculations were done during the year as against only 72,535 during the previous year; yet the demand for virus and serum was said to have been more than the Institute could supply. Much difficulty was experienced in producing adequate supplies of satisfactory virus owing to the congested conditions obtaining in the present premises of the Serum Institute. Government hope that this handicap will be removed with the completion of the arrangements for shifting the Institute to its new location near Hebbal. The experience of work under the exceptionally hard conditions which prevailed during the year was a further confirmation of the value of the serum simultaneous method which is now invariably adopted in the State; and it is gratifying to learn that it has won its way to the confidence of the raiyats. It is reported that experiments conducted during the year indicate that such inoculation confers immunity from the disease for more than three years.

6. The Director reports that it is now definitely established that our cattle fairs are the chief means of spreading rinderpest. Government have recently revised the rules, relating to Cattle Fairs in accordance with the recommendations of a Strong Committee on which all the District Boards were represented, and hope that the revised rules will enable the exercise of more effective control of cattle diseases.

7. Owing to the large demands made on the staff by the Rinderpest epidemic, not much work could be done in regard to the other diseases, such as anthrax, black quarter, etc. However with the present policy of opening at least five new dispensaries every year, the difficulty now experienced of a limited staff and facilities will be gradually overcome and adequate attention paid to all diseases which now levy a heavy toll on the raiyats' cattle.

8. *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—The total number of these institutions including the five opened during the year was fifty. In view of the policy referred to above, it is hoped that within the next four years, every Taluk will have a Veterinary Dispensary. The statistics given of the work turned out in hospitals and dispensaries show that these institutions are becoming increasingly popular.

9. The necessity for the better equipment and housing of these institutions is again stressed in the report. Government have the subject under active consideration. They wish to express their appreciation of the ready manner in which local bodies and private individuals are coming forward with offers of co-operation, which is full of happy augury for rapid progress and improvement in this direction. The difficulty at present in the way of more rapid expansion is the paucity of qualified men, and Government hope that with the liberal scheme of scholarships now extended, and the improvement in the prospects of the Veterinary Staff this difficulty will be soon overcome.

10. *Cattle fairs.*—Out of the 70 fairs held in the State during the year, the officers of the department attended 62; in all of which temporary Veterinary Dispensaries were opened, sick cattle were treated and castration demonstrations with the Bordizoo pincers were conducted. Though action was taken as far as possible to stop fairs in places where there was danger of Rinderpest infection, yet the several outbreaks of this disease were traced directly to these fairs or to cattle from infected localities being marched through the State into British territory by dealers. As already stated above, it is hoped that Cattle Fairs will in future be brought under more effective control.

11. *Breeding Bulls.*—The serious shortage of breeding bulls is again brought to the notice of Government. The establishment of the Parvatharayanakere Breeding Station is an important step in the solution of this problem. Government have also under their consideration, the recommendations of the Live-Stock Improvement Committee about other measures calculated to create facilities for enabling people to maintain a larger number of bulls, and orders will be issued shortly.

12. *Jatka Ponies.*—Government note with regret that animals declared to be unfit for service are still allowed to be used and that sufficient cognizance is not taken of cruelty. The Inspector-General of Police is requested to take steps to see that the police co-operate with Veterinary Officers in the matter.

13. *Scientific Section.*—Investigations into the following diseases were conducted during the year:—John's disease, "Yederoga" Anthrax, etc. In addition, the officers of this section also inoculated the horses of the Kunigal Stud Farm against anthrax, and the cattle of the Amrit Mahal Department against Rinderpest. The Department has two Assistant Superintendents on research work, but is to a certain extent handicapped by not having a laboratory of its own. The completion of the new Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture will however remedy this drawback, and it is hoped that substantial progress will be reported next year.

14. *General.*—The Annual Departmental Conference was held during the year and the Mysore Veterinary Medical Association met for the first time and discussed papers of technical interest. Government trust that this useful institution will grow and develop on right lines. The work of the Department on the whole has been satisfactory during the year in spite of abnormal conditions and great credit is due to the Departmental Officers for the manner in which they combated the severe epidemic of Rinderpest.

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.